

NEW COMPENSATION ACT FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS

Colonel R. G. Cholmeley Jones, Director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, in the course of a talk to wounded soldiers at Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D. C., epitomized the motives behind the action of the Bureau in requesting Congress, through the Treasury Department, to enact several important amendments to the War Risk Insurance Act. These may be divided into two general classes—those affecting the compensation features of the Act, and those concerning War Risk Insurance.

A very important proposed amendment and one which meets with widespread approval, is the upward revision of the schedule of compensation payable to disabled ex-service men, under the present schedule a man totally disabled is entitled to a \$100 a month, if single. The amendment raises this by \$50, making \$150 payable under these circumstances. If he has a wife but no child living he gets \$45. The amendment provides \$90. If he has a wife and one child, he draws at present \$55, the amendment gives him \$95.

The law now provides that if a man loses both hands, both feet, or the sight of both eyes, or becomes helpless and permanently bedridden, he shall receive \$100 a month compensation. Experiences have shown that many men who have lost an arm and a leg, or one limb and the sight of one eye, are just as badly crippled as men who have lost both feet or both hands, and so the Bureau has recommended that in addition to the injuries at present entitling a man to compensation at the rate of \$100 a month, the following shall be included: The loss of one foot and one hand; the loss of one foot and the sight of one eye. These deemed "total and permanent disability" by the express wording of the amendment. There is also a provision that for a "double total permanent disability," meaning cases in which men are maimed so seriously that their injuries include two of these classifications, the compensation shall be \$200 a month.

The Bureau has found a very widespread sentiment among ex-service men in favor of having their policies made payable in a lump sum, or in installments covering a short period of time, at their option. To meet this demand Director Cholmeley Jones has urgently recommended a modification of the War Risk Insurance Act to permit making provision in the contract for converted insurance for optional settlements on the part of the insured, making such insurance payable either in one sum or in installments for thirty-six months or more.

If the insured has not exercised his right of election, under the proposed amendment the beneficiary may elect to receive the insurance in monthly installments covering a period of not less than three years.

Another very important item is the proposed enlargement of the permitted class of insurance beneficiaries (spouse, child, grandchild, parent, brother or sister) to include, in addition to those enumerated, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, brothers-in-law, and sisters-in-law.

All of the amendment described above, together with several other proposed measures of less interest, but of much importance, are incorporated in the so-called "Sweet-Bill" introduced by Congressman Sweet of Iowa in the House of Representatives on August 26, 1919. There is every reason to anticipate the enactment into law of these proposed features at an early date.

In the matter of the settlement of insurance claims the Bureau is practically current. Of over 125,000 claims, all but 9,000 have been settled and regular payments are being made. The 9,000 unsettled cases consist of those in which the beneficiaries live in foreign countries or for some other reason can not be reached. A diligent effort is being made to get in touch with this comparatively small residue.

The Medical Division has just completed a very trying and difficult task—the preparation of a schedule of disability ratings for different injuries and combinations of injuries, based on \$100 per month as compensation for total disability. If the Sweet Bill (H. R. 8778) becomes law, all compensation for disability will be based upon \$100 per month as a maximum instead of upon \$30 as at present. This schedule is necessarily very complicated, being designed to cover all probable combinations and degrees of injuries, and signed to cover all probable combinations and degrees of injuries, and must be revised from time to time in accordance with the Bureau's experience in order that full justice may be done in all cases.

"Unquestionably, the Government contracts will be constantly improved, as experience indicates the need for improvements, and it is decidedly to the advantage of all of us to hold the maximum amount of this Government insurance," added the director.

"A recent Treasury Decision has authorized the re-instatement of Government insurance within 18 months after discharge by the payment of only two months premiums on the amount of insurance to be re-instated, one covering the month of grace during which the policy was in force, and one for the month in which re-

instatement is made. This is a very generous provision, and will make it possible for all ex-service men to retain their Government insurance after they have become adjusted again in their normal civil life. Instead I look for a very heavy re-instatement and conversation as soon as the Sweet bill passes the Senate and becomes an Act, and it is made known to all those who are affected.

ARRESTS IN TWO DRY MONTHS FEB. 36-51 PER CENT.

Judge Gemmill of Chicago Cites Totals as Argument Against More Policemen.

Judge W. N. Gemmill, of Chicago, supplied the Tribune of that city with the following figures, compiled after a personal examination of the court records, showing the effect of wartime during July and August, and the first two "dry" months, and pointing out a new argument against the addition of 1,000 policemen to the present force:

"July and August, 1919, are the first two months of prohibition, and a few figures are now available to show the effect on crime in Chicago."

"July was not a fair test, as much liquor was stored in homes after the beginning of the month. Then the race riots occurred during the month."

Huge Drop in Arrests.
"Yet the total number of arrests in July for all causes was 36 per cent less than the arrests of any previous July for five years."

"In August the total number of arrests decreased 51 per cent over August, 1918, and 73 per cent over August, 1916."

"The total number of arrests in Chicago in August, 1919, was 7,768; in August, 1918, 11,761, and in August, 1916, 13,441."

"A 'he present rate there will be a decrease of more than 40,000 arrests in Chicago in the coming year."

Forty-Thousand Days Saved.
"An arrest means a day lost to a policeman. Oftentimes he spends many days in attendance upon court in a single arrest."

"This means 40,000 days saved for one officer, or 400 days for 1,000 officers. Certainly we do not need 1,000 extra policemen with this showing."

"In South Chicago, where I have held court, there has been hardly a case of wife beating since July 1, although such cases were frequent before that."

"The only crimes now on the increase are robberies and murders. There are committed by a tough school of young criminals, who are encouraged by the tax enforcement of the law."

How to Help Chicago.
"With 1,000 policemen released from petty police duty and assigned to the job of catching and punishing these dangerous crooks Chicago will be much safer and the evil reputation recently given her will not be justified."

(Southern Publicity Committee)

STANDARD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OPENS STATE OFFICE IN MONTGOMERY.

Montgomery, Ala., Oct. 23.—The Standard Life Insurance Company, the first Old Line Legal Reserve Life Insurance Company ever operated by Colored people, has opened a State Office in Newell Building.

It may be added that when the President, Mr. Herman E. Perry organized the Standard Life it was the second "Emancipation for our people," by making the race financially stronger. The Company has over \$12,000,000 insurance in force and during the first six months of 1919, wrote more business than the amount written during all of 1918. During the month of July, Alabama stood second in the company out of Eleven States, why not make Alabama first?

The opening of the State Office here brings to Montgomery Mr. G. F. Oliver, one of the best known and biggest Life Insurance producers among the insurance men of our race. Mr. Oliver needs no introduction to the people of Montgomery as he is well known here, where he spent his boyhood days at State Normal School. Now he comes back to render real service. Mr. Oliver becomes Agency Supervisor for the State of Alabama. Mr. R. W. Harris, who has had charge of the Montgomery District for the past three and a half years, will be in charge of the Montgomery office.

Through the efforts of Mr. Harris in the Business district of our city he insured the lives of our business men and women to an amount totaling \$70,000, which shows the good judgment of our business people to push the biggest institution in our race.

The Montgomery people should feel proud to have with them Mr. G. F. Oliver, the biggest Life Insurance salesman in our race, who is to make his home in this city.

OKLAHOMA COMMITTEE NAMED TO INSPIRE BETTER FEELING BETWEEN THE WHITES AND BLACKS.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 23.—A definite movement to prevent further antipathy between whites and Negroes was launched today by Governor Robertson when he appointed a committee to form plans of organization. A body to disseminate propaganda to create "good feeling" is the basis of the proposal. The organization would have branches in every county.

NEGROES TAKE OVER CASKET FACTORY

Company is Capitalized at \$25,000.00 Only Concern of its Kind in Georgia Owned and Operated by Negroes.

Waycross, Ga., Oct. 23.—What was considered one of the best deals ever put over by Negroes in this city, was when several well known business men took over the Waycross Casket Company, recently. For more than a year the company has been owned by whites but operated by Negroes now become its sole owners.

By the transaction referred to Negroes.

The company has been manufacturing some beautiful coffins and caskets already and with the new plans to be put into effect by the new owners, the needs of all the undertakers of the this section can be supplied.

About \$10,000.00 was involved in the transaction which has been capitalized at \$25,000.00. \$15,000.00 worth of the stock is to be placed on the market at \$25.00 per share. The transaction was brought about largely through the efforts of Rev. J. W. Johnson, who has been its manager for the past year.

The present officers and men composing the company are J. C. McGraw, president; Rev. J. W. Johnson, vice-president and general manager; E. E. Moore, secretary; Dr. J. J. Creagh, treasurer; Carlton W. Gaines, Hugh H. Smith, Dr. H. C. Scarlett, T. C. Williams and Rev. E. A. Robinson.

With these men behind it the new company will most likely become one of the strongest and most successful Negro business enterprises in this section of the state.

AMERICAN LEGION PRESENTS UNUSUAL SPECTACLE OF ORGANIZATION WITHOUT DIVISION.

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 23.—The Colored delegates to the Missouri state meeting of the American Legion were treated in such a manner that whatever zeal they had for this new soldier organization is much strengthened. They say of the meeting that in no way and at no time was Negro an issue, and he went as an American without distinguished mark until the last and closing session when Capt. Jack Williams of Joplin reminded the convention that the relative weakness of the Negro posts would keep them from representation in the National meeting in Minneapolis, Nov. 10, 11, 12, unless steps were taken to remedy that condition. Therefore he urged the election of Negro delegates among the nine to represent Missouri at large. This was done, the two selected being Fearance of St. Louis, and Franklin Perry of St. Joseph. Of the two alternates at large for the state one went to a Negro, Homer Roberts of Kansas City. The utmost harmony and good will prevailed. One Negro delegate and that was from a full blooded personage named Ludwig. He was told in no uncertain tones to shut up and sit down. Being held in Jefferson City, the Governor was present, and he too advocated whole Americanism without divisions because of race, creed or color. Since there were only 6 Colored delegates present, and three were honored with places, and since the tone of the addresses and deliberations were so big and broad they are jubilant. Mr. Roberts will make a report to his local branch at the regular weekly meeting before next Monday evening. The branch wants 1000 members before Nov. 10, and says it will get them.

Activities Committee says:

The Legion is founded primarily to foster and spread true Americanism. This means that must raise its voice against lawlessness of all kinds—against the adulterated slavery that exist in part of this country. It is the privilege of every ex-service man to help in this matter. Fall in men, eyes right; you had a duty in your country's service—it was national—you have a duty now, it is sacred.

You who are strong for the American Legion, come; you who are not, come and get that way. Let us make this a real muster roll of Kansas City's sons of C. D. Fall in at ease Monday night, October 12, at Community Center.

118 FORCED TO KISS FLAG AND DRIVEN FROM CITY.

No Disorder Prevailed. They were I. W. W.'s and Trouble Makers.

Weirton, W. Va., Oct. 23.—One hundred and eighteen alleged members of the Industrial Workers of the World, captured in a raid near here today, were marched into the public square at Weirton, forced to kiss the American flag and were driven out of town by police and deputies. Seven others, suspected of being the leaders; after kissing the flag, were taken to the county jail at New Cumberland, where they will be held pending investigation by federal authorities.

The raid was carried out without any serious disorder. Authorities of Hancock county and Weirton had been searching for the rendezvous of the alleged I. W. W., since several days ago, when there appeared on the sidewalks here written threats that the "I. W. W." will get you."

Last night the meeting place of

the men wanted was located in an old barn on the Hancock county road, south of here. It was surrounded by heavily armed deputies and a few entered the barn.

A search of the place resulted in the finding of a large quantity of "Red" literature—half a ton, it was said—in which the flag of anarchy was extolled and the prediction made that the extremists would rule the world. The deputies also found the names of 187 men, supposed to be members of the organization, meeting in the barn. Immediately deputies were sent out and the men were rounded up in the public square. There was one fight after another in bringing the men to the square, and even after they were corralled there was resistance when the deputies gave them the option of kissing the flag or going to jail.

A big American flag was strung across the street over their heads while another flag was used for the kissing. Most of the men were Finns, and they were told in their native tongue that they must kiss the flag or remain in custody. Protests came from many but they were in vain. Some voluntarily took hold of the flag and buried their faces in it. The men were then informed that they must leave town. Again there was a protest from many, but they were escorted to the town limits nevertheless, and ordered to leave.

It is claimed most of the men were furnace workers and that they came here from Woodlawn, Pa., near Pittsburgh, a few days ago.

The record of the men at Woodlawn is being investigated by the state and federal authorities.

PICTURE THEATRE MAN DELIVERS ADDRESS TO NEGROES; IS PLACED IN JAIL.

Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 23.—The Ensley police arrested C. P. Christensen Sunday afternoon at the Negro picture show at Tuxedo Junction after he had finished delivering and inciting speech to an audience of Negroes who had gathered together for a community sing.

Christensen, who is a Dane by birth, is representative manager of the picture show which for lack of proper support from Colored patronage, closed down a week ago. The building was secured by Professor Woods, the well known principal of the public school for Negro children located at Tuxedo for the afternoon singing and after several talks by Negro men on various topics of interest to the Colored people, Christensen came forward and eulogized the bravery of the Negroes in the recent war as being equal if not superior to the whites, and then compared their treatment here to their treatment in the east, saying they were getting an unfair deal here. He exhorted the Negroes to demand their rights from the people of the south.

Following the speech, Officer Apple, of the Ensley police force, stepped up to the stage and arrested the speaker.

In police court yesterday morning Judge Lowry fined him \$100 and 180 days hard labor, which was the maximum of the local court. Whether he will be arrested and handled later by the department of justice will be decided by that department.

In court Professor Woods said that he thought it was his duty to say that Christensen's speech was not approved by him nor any of the better class of the Colored race in this district, and that he felt sure that no bad results would come from it. Those knowing of his years of successful service as a leader of his race in this district felt that his speech in court was sincere in every respect.

That there is an agency at work among the Negroes of this industrial center is well known and the disapproval is so strong by the better class of Negroes that there is very little secrecy maintained as to its work.

Christensen has applied for his first naturalization papers to become a citizen of the United States.

MOONLIGHT SCHOOLS OPEN.

Hickman, Ky., Oct. 23.—Many Colored moonlight schools have already begun and have done some excellent work. Men and women over 70 year old have learned to read and write a legible hand in two weeks. Some of these schools in the lower bottoms, below here, have had to close for the present as the day schools have had to close for the reason of cotton picking, but will be continued a little later on. The Fulton Colored Moonlight School began some weeks ago and a good attendance. Hickman Colored Moonlight School with Prof. G. T. Halliburton, Colored, principal, and two other teachers, opened on the night of September 29 with fifteen in attendance and more will continue to enroll for some time. This school is to continue six weeks.

COLORED LEGIONS POST FORMED

Jackson, Tenn., Oct. 23.—A Negro post of the American Legion, with 167 charter members, was organized here today. It is believed to be one of the first Negro posts of the legion organized in the South. Lieut. L. E. Leach of Nashville, and J. F. Lane, president of Lane College, a Methodist school for Negroes, were the chief speakers, urging strict adherence to the constitution and assuring the Negro veterans the white people of the South are ready to help worthy Negroes in laudable undertakings.

COUNTY BOARD TAKES STEPS TO QUIET POSSIBLE RIOTING

Palatka, Fla., Oct. 23.—The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, with chairman Steen, and Messrs. Glynn, Turner, Conway and Worley present.

The question of possible riots in this section was discussed at some length, and it was deemed best to take all precautions looking to the prevention of any outbreak here and to keep down rowdiness at all times. Accordingly it was decided to purchase a machine gun to be placed at the disposal of the sheriff for use when occasion demanded. Along this line a vote of appreciation was given Sheriff Hagan and his deputies and the police officers for the very able manner in which the avoided serious trouble in the recently attempted mob rule in Palatka.

ESTABLISHMENT OF MORE NEGRO SCHOOLS PLANNED.

Austin, Texas, Oct. 23.—L. W. Rogers, supervisor of the Negro training schools in Texas for the State department of education, has returned to Austin after making a tour of those already established. There are now five such schools in the State and there are about 1,000 Negro boys and girls who are receiving vocational education therein. Special attention is devoted to manual training, inclusive of shop work; agriculture, industrial pursuits and domestic science.

Two other county schools are shortly to be instituted, one at Mahan in Harrison county, and the other at Pine Island, Trinity county; in addition to which Mr. Rogers will locate two others in the near future.

All these schools receive funds from the Rockefeller foundation and other sources, this in addition to the apportionment from the State.

From the Rosenwald fund there will this year be available funds for the building of some 20 new schools for Negroes in various parts of the State, and each of these will have facilities for the inauguration of the vocational courses. They correspond, in a way, to the consolidated schools which will be built for the white pupils from the county funds. They will be established in various countries and will be of the one and two teacher type approved by the department of education; they will be modern in every detail and will have every possible facility for the benefit of the Negro youth.

PROTEST AGAINST DISCRIMINATION AT THEATRE.

South Bend, Ind., Oct. 23.—"One of those Chicago riot niggers," was the remark made of Floyd G. Snelson, Jr., representing The Chicago Whip, who, in company with one of the leading young women of South Bend, attempted to buy a seat on the main floor of the Orpheum Theatre. The ticket seller informed them that all seats on the main floor were sold.

Upon entering, Snelson inquired of the usher, who was a Colored girl, about several rows of seats that were vacant. He then protested at the box office and the manager still persisted that all main floor seats were sold. A heated argument ensued and the manager is said to have made the above remark. Four Colored girl ushers went to their employer in protest, and not receiving any consideration, they all quit. It is one of the first race segregations in the city.

CERTAIN INDIANS WHO SERVED IN ARMY TO GET CITIZENSHIP.

Washington, Oct. 23.—The Senate will pass the House bill granting citizenship to certain Indians who served in the army of the navy during the war, and who were honorably discharged. This will be accomplished by the Indian appearing in court, exhibiting his discharge papers, and the action of conferring the citizenship will not, according to terms of the bill, affect the property rights, individual or tribal, of any such Indian.

The legislation will affect none in the five civilized tribes, as they were made citizens by the Act of Congress of March 3, 1901, but may affect those of the other tribes in Oklahoma who have not heretofore had the rights of citizenship conferred.

In making the report to the Senate, Senator Curtis of Kansas calls attention to the war activities of the American Indian. Out of a total of 33,000 eligible for military service, 10,000 entered some branch of the army of naval service, which number included about 7,000 living along the northern border, and who joined the Canadian forces. A large number became commissioned officers, some of them attaining the rank of major.

The Indians subscribed a total of \$25,000,000 to the five Liberty bond issues, an equivalent of \$75 for every Indian of any age in the United States. Their Thrift stamp purchases have exceeded \$500,000.